



Attorney/Docket No. 31132.63
Customer No. 000027683

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Molz, IV, et al.

Serial No. 10/733554

Filed: December 10, 2003

For: Method and Apparatus for Replacing the
Function of Facet Joints

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§ Group Art Unit: Unknown
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§ Examiner: Unknown
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449. No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists. The cited patents are listed in numerical order and are not in any order based on their pertinence.

The above-identified application was filed after June 30, 2003. Therefore, pursuant to the waiver of the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) as stated in a Pre-OG Notice dated July 11, 2003, copies of only the foreign patent documents and non-patent literature listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449 are attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the United States filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required (37 CFR §1.97(b)).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1394.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,

David M. O'Dell
Registration No. 42,044

Date: 3-5-04
HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP
901 Main Street, Suite 3100
Dallas, Texas 75202-3789
Telephone: 972-739-8635
Facsimile: 214-200-0853

R-68810.1

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 3-5-04

Bonnie Boyle
Printed Name

Bonnie Boyle
Signature

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|---------------------------------|--|--|--------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|----------|---------|---------------|---------|------------------------|----------|
| In place of PTO-1449 Form | <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-size: 8px;">PATENT OFFICE</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <div style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">OIPF</div> <div style="font-size: 10px; margin: 0;">U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</div> <div style="font-size: 12px; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">MAR 09 2004</div> </div> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; font-size: 8px;">MAR 09 2004</div> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> </div> | <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 10px; margin-bottom: 5px;"><i>Complete if Known</i></div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Application Number</td> <td>10/733,554</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>December 10, 2003</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Applicant(s)</td> <td>Molz, IV, et al.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>31132.63</td> </tr> </table> | Application Number | 10/733,554 | Filing Date | December 10, 2003 | Applicant(s) | Molz, IV, et al. | Art Unit | Unknown | Examiner Name | Unknown | Attorney Docket Number | 31132.63 |
| Application Number | 10/733,554 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Filing Date | December 10, 2003 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Applicant(s) | Molz, IV, et al. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Art Unit | Unknown | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Name | Unknown | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 31132.63 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SHEET | 1 | OF | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |

| U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Examiner's Initials | Cite No. | Foreign Patent Document <small>(Country Code - Number - Kind)</small> | Publication Date <small>MM-DD-YYYY</small> | Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation <small>Y/N</small> |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART | | |
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| Examiner's Initials | Cite No. | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city/country where published |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.